

Subject: Re: Mobilization
From: "Gerald Gubatan" <gerald.gubatan@lacity.org>
Date: 2/13/17, 3:25 PM
To: Kristin Fukushima
CC: Joanne; Dean Matsubayashi; Takao Suzuki; Nancy Oda; Alan Kumamoto; Ellen Endo

Hi Kristin,

I agree out of caution, to be 'safe', you should have some community members present to monitor the vote and to maintain a visible presence with Council Member Huizar and other Members. If the item is called "special" by a Council Member or in response to a speaker's card being submitted; you should immediately submit cards for selected speakers. That will all be unnecessary, of course, if the vote does indeed take place as a 'consent' item.

See you soon,

Gerald

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On Mon, Feb 13, 2017 at 2:03 PM, Kristin Fukushima <kristin@littletokyola.org> wrote:
Hi everyone,

Gerald, just letting you know - I spoke with CD 14 this morning, and apparently they checked in with all the offices and have confirmed that they are expecting everyone on City Council tomorrow to vote in approval of PLUM's recommendation against HCM nomination for Parker Center. To be safe, a handful of us will still be there tomorrow, but good news nonetheless!

Thanks!

On Fri, Feb 10, 2017 at 5:36 PM, Kristin Fukushima <kristin@littletokyola.org> wrote:
HI folks,

Just heard from CD 14 that the item will be classified as a consent item on the Feb 14th City Council agenda. Which is great news!

That being said, I agree with Gerald - it sounds like we should still have some folks out on Tuesday, just in case, and prepared to speak.

I will check in with Chris and Terry about attending, as well as some other folks. Joanne and Alan, do you think you two would be able to make it? (Tues, Feb 14th, 10am).

Thank you everyone!

On Fri, Feb 10, 2017 at 2:18 PM, Gerald Gubatan <gerald.gubatan@lacity.org> wrote:
Thank you for sharing the DT News article, including quotes from Adrian Scott Fine of the Los Angeles Conservancy.

Please mobilize for the Tuesday Council session. In addition, I suggest you be prepared with one or two speakers, in case the matter is called "special" to reopen the discussion in full Council. (I thought the testimony by Chris Komai was especially effective; also Dep Chief Terry Hata can speak personally about the building as a former police officer...).

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On Fri, Feb 10, 2017 at 1:21 PM, Joanne <jkumamoto@aol.com> wrote:
Hi Gerald,
The LA Conservancy has not given up and plans to continue the fight.
See the Downtown News today.
Joanne

Sent from my iPhone 6s Plus

On Feb 10, 2017, at 9:55 AM, Gerald Gubatan <gerald.gubatan@lacity.org> wrote:

Kristin:

Okay good job tracking the item - which is Item #17 on next Tuesday's Council Agenda.

Procedurally Council President Wesson will go through Council Agenda Items. When he gets to Item #17, if no one has submitted a Speaker's Card and no other Council Member calls it "special," then the Council votes on the PLUM Committee recommendations which is to "DENY" the application. The vote is then essentially a "consent item" without debate or discussion. At that point, the vote is final. The goal is a consent vote without debate.

I see the Agenda states that the time limit to act is February 17th. A Council Member could theoretically not only call the item "special" to open the debate on the floor; but also try to delay the vote to either February 15th or 17th. Again we don't know if there will be a concerted effort on behalf of the LA Conservancy, Office of Historic Resources, or Cultural Heritage Commissioners - to attempt to reverse the recommendation.

Therefore, once again, as you so effectively did at the PLUM Committee, it would be good to keep up the pressure - mobilize the community again to have a strong visible presence by lining up and sitting in the front 2-3 rows, but do not submit any Speaker's Cards. The community's presence alone sends a message and in this case, it is the entire Council of 14 Members (there is currently one vacant seat).

"It ain't over til it's over"..

Gerald

ITEM NO. (17)
[15-0127](#)
CD 14

PLANNING AND LAND USE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT relative to the inclusion of Parker Center located at 150 North Los Angeles Street in the list of Historic-Cultural Monuments.

Recommendation for Council action:

DENY the application for the inclusion of Parker Center located at 150 North Los Angeles Street in the list of Historic-Cultural Monuments.

Applicant: City of Los Angeles, Cultural Heritage Commission (CHC)

Owner: City of Los Angeles

Case No. CHC-2016-3949-HCM

Fiscal Impact Statement: The CHC reports that such designation in and of itself has no fiscal impact. Future applications for permits may cause minimal administrative costs.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

TIME LIMIT FILE - FEBRUARY 17, 2017

(LAST DAY FOR COUNCIL ACTION - FEBRUARY 17, 2017)

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On Fri, Feb 10, 2017 at 12:20 AM, Kristin Fukushima <kristin@littletokyola.org> wrote:
Hi Gerald,

Thanks as always for your insight!! This is really helpful to know, and we will plan accordingly. If you happen to hear more about how Council will be placing the item on the agenda (which I noticed it's been set for the [Tues, Feb 14th meeting](#)), please let us know.

Thanks again for everything you have been doing - it's very much appreciated.

Best,
Kristin

On Wed, Feb 8, 2017 at 10:01 AM, Gerald Gubatan <gerald.gubatan@lacity.org> wrote:
Kristin and Friends,

Your effective mobilization and advocacy definitely influenced the outcome of the vote. The matter next comes to the full City Council so you should track it with the City Clerk's Office to determine when the item will be scheduled before the full City Council. PLUM Committee's vote is only a recommendation to the full City Council. Technically the public hearing was already held, but any Council Member can call the item "special" and reopen the discussion; in addition, if a member of the public submits a speaker's card, then the item is reopened for discussion.

I recommend, if you can pull it off again, to mobilize for the full Council session - No need to submit speaker's cards this time but only have a strong visible presence. You don't know if the Cultural Heritage Commissioners or Office of Historic Resources or LA Conservancy will attempt to reverse the recommendation. The goal would be for the Council to adopt the PLUM Committee Report as a "consent" item without further debate.

Let's be in touch, and CONGRATS!

Gerald

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On Tue, Feb 7, 2017 at 6:36 PM, Kristin Fukushima <kristin@littletokyola.org> wrote:
Hi Gerald,

Thank you again so much for all your support, insight, and help in this!! And please send our thanks to the Councilmember - I know that he is a big preservationist, but I very much appreciate his nuanced reflections on preservation, including how we tell our community's histories, and who is telling those stories. We appreciate that he heard our community, and ultimately voted no on the HCM designation.

Thanks again to you and Sharon for all you do to support and build up all our communities!

Best,
Kristin

On Tue, Feb 7, 2017 at 9:58 AM, Kristin Fukushima <kristin@littletokyola.org> wrote:
Thank you, Gerald! I believe we're expecting about 50 people, so I will be going extra early to secure those first 2-3 rows and fill out speaker cards.

On Tue, Feb 7, 2017 at 9:48 AM, Gerald Gubatan <gerald.gubatan@lacity.org> wrote:

Please aim to arrive no later than 2:15PM if not earlier, and sit in the front two rows for visual impact. Also distribute and collect completed speaker's cards then hand over to the Clerk to make sure Huizar knows there are speakers.

There are two other controversial issues on the agenda and a large crowd is expected for all these items.

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On Mon, Feb 6, 2017 at 6:25 PM, Dean Matsubayashi <dmatsubayashi@ltsc.org> wrote:
Gerald,

Thank you for the heads up. I know Kristin and others in Little Tokyo have been reaching out to folks in Little Tokyo so the community should be well represented. Thank you again for all your support.

Best,
Dean

On Mon, Feb 6, 2017 at 2:02 PM, Gerald Gubatan <gerald.gubatan@lacity.org> wrote:

FYI - I saw Ken Bernstein informally today at City Hall and he advised that the President and Vice-President of the Cultural Heritage Commission intend to appear personally before the PLUM Committee to advocate for designation of the Parker Center building as a City Monument. Therefore, it appears there may be an organized effort on behalf of the City family to push for the designation.

Alternative perspectives need to be heard in a compelling and effective manner. Therefore, I strongly recommend mobilization and lining up of speakers; as well as communicating your position to Members of the PLUM Committee (via their respective staffs, today and tomorrow leading up to the 2:30PM hearing). I have noted the staff members from each office below:

- Jose Huizar (Shawn Kuk, Kevin Ocubillo)
- Marqueece Harris-Dawson (Lynnell Washington)

- Mitch Englander (Hannah Lee)
- Curren Price (Paloma Perez-McAvoy)

I've copied Joanne and Alan Kumamoto with whom I previously spoke about this matter.

Gerald

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On Fri, Feb 3, 2017 at 4:59 PM, Gerald Gubatan <gerald.gubatan@lacity.org> wrote:

FYI the PLUM Committee Agenda has been released. There are several items which will garner alot of people, such as whether to designate the Bob Hope Estate as a City Monument; also an Appeal challenging expansion of the Brentwood School. Your item is early on the Agenda but sometimes, the Chairman hops around. As noted earlier, it is most effective to have a strong visible presence and to organize speakers to cover key points, since speakers are limited to two minutes each. You may wish to organize a "practice session" in advance. I would be happy to meet up with people on Monday at around 5PM in Little Tokyo if you need a sounding board.

Gerald

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On Fri, Feb 3, 2017 at 12:56 PM, Kristin Fukushima <kristin@littletokyola.org> wrote:

Thank you so much for the meeting and insight!! Also, thank you for the contact with Nancy - very much appreciated.

On Thu, Feb 2, 2017 at 1:55 PM, Takao Suzuki <tsuzuki@ltsc.org> wrote:

Hi Gerald,

Thank you again for meeting with us without any notice and for providing your insight on this matter. Your support and thoughts are much appreciated.

Thank you.

Tak



Takao Suzuki | Director of Community Economic Development
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On Thu, Feb 2, 2017 at 9:58 AM, Gerald Gubatan <gerald.gubatan@lacity.org> wrote:

Dean, Tak, Kristin:

When I briefly worked for former Council Member Richard Alarcon around 2011-2012 (after the prospect of being laid-off from CRA/LA after Governor Brown dissolved redevelopment agencies) on designating the Tuna Canyon Detention Station as a City Monument, Nancy Oda of the SFV Japanese American Community Center mobilized the Northeast Valley JA community and packed the PLUM Committee hearing room. Perhaps Little Tokyo can collaborate with her to literally bus in community members. At the time, everyone wore red for visual impact and sat in the front rows. I highly recommend a strong visible presence to keep up the pressure as well as lining up speakers perhaps dividing up key points (as speakers are typically given only two minutes each). Please let me know how I can be a resource if needed.

Gerald

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